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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Before the Examiner:
THOMAS FRIEDHELM BOEHME, et al.	:	
Serial No:	:	Group Art Unit:
Filed:	:	Intellectual Property Law Department
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR HIERARCHICAL LAYOUT SPECIALIZATION	:	International Business Machines Corp.
	:	11400 Burnet Road
	:	Austin, Texas 78758

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop: Patent Applications
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows. Consideration of the claims is respectfully requested.